

Amendment to the Specification

p. 5, lines 11-18

Figures 9A and 9B depict the 44376bp DNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:26) obtained by plasmid rescue in L23.

Figure 10A depicts the predicted amino acid sequence for a polypeptide of 124 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:27) based on the 44376bp DNA sequence obtained by plasmid rescue from the Micro-Tom mutant L23.

Figure 10B depicts the predicted amino acid sequence for a polypeptide of 85 amino acids (SEQ ID NO:28) based on the 44376bp DNA sequence obtained by plasmid rescue from the Micro-Tom mutant L23.

p. 25, lines 6-11

The sequencing resulted in identification of a 44376bp DNA sequence (Figures 9A-9B, SEQ ID NO:26). A Basic BLASTN search of non-redundant nucleic acid sequence databases, conducted on Feb. 29, 2000, through NCBI using the search capabilities of the NIH website, with the nucleotide sequence presented in Figures 9A-9B revealed no significant sequence identity between sequences available in GenBank and nucleic acids 1-44376bp of the SEQ ID NO:26.

RECEIVED

JAN 06 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS